

Attorney Docket No. P67344US0
Application No.: 09/926,630

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-16 (cancelled).

17 (new): A composition obtainable by a process

in which tumor material is evaluated, comminuted and made into a purified cell suspension, which is then incubated with interferon-gamma and tocopherol acetate and frozen to form a tumor cell lysate and

in which monocytes are isolated from buffy coats or whole blood and subsequently induced to differentiate into dendritic cells by incubation with cytokines and converted to the non-adherent stage,

whereupon the tumor cell lysate is thawed and thawed lysate and cytokines are added to the non-adherent dendritic cells, followed by incubation of the admixture and harvesting of the mature dendritic cells.

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18 (new): The composition according to claim 17, wherein IL-4 and GM-CSF are added for differentiation into immature dendritic cells in the preparation.

19 (new): A medicament containing the composition according to claim 17 in combination with an acceptable carrier.

20 (new): A method for preparing a medicament in which a suspension of tumor cells is prepared, which is then incubated with interferon-gamma and tocopherol acetate, the tumor cells are killed, and monocytes are isolated from blood, their differentiation into dendritic cells is induced, and the thus obtained immature dendritic cells are incubated with the cell lysate of the killed tumor cells, the maturing of the dendritic cells is induced, and the mature dendritic cells are harvested as the medicament.

21 (new): The method according to claim 20, in which the monocytes are isolated from buffy coats, whole blood, leukaphereses, or separated stem cells.

22 (new): The method according to claim 20, in which the differentiation of the monocytes into immature dendritic cells is induced by cytokines, IL-4 and GM-CSF with or without interferon-gamma.

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23 (new): The method according to claim 20, in which the maturing from immature to mature dendritic cells is induced by prostaglandin E₂ and TNF- α and/or IL-1 β and IL-6 in addition to IL-4 and GM-CSF.

24 (new): The method according to claim 20, in which the tumor cell suspension is prepared by isolating and optionally evaluating tumor material, which is then comminuted and made into a purified cell suspension.

25 (new): The method according to claim 20, in which the expression of membrane-borne protein complexes is induced in the tumor cell suspension prior to said killing of the tumor cells.

26 (new): The method according to claim 25, in which expression of membrane-borne protein complexes is induced by interferon-gamma and tocopherol acetate.

27 (new): The method according to claim 20, in which the tumor cells are killed by freezing.

28 (new): The method according to claim 20, in which the mature dendritic cells are harvested when typical morphological characteristics of cell maturity are present as evaluated by microscopic check and/or by characterization of surface antigens using fluorescent antibodies.

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29 (new): A method of using the composition according to claim 17 for tumor therapy comprising administering the composition to a patient.

30 (new): The method of claim 29, wherein the tumor material is autologous.

31 (new): A method of using the composition according to claim 17 for tumor vaccination comprising administering the composition to a patient.